

## **THE EVOLUTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORGANISATION OF THE ROMANIAN STATE. - A SHORT VIEW**

Cristian IONESCU<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract:** In this article the author presents a short and concise view of the Romanian constitutional development. The author points out that the constitutional organization of the two Principalities, Wallachia and Moldavia, has historical roots, beginning with the 14 th century. The modern constitutional development began with the 19 th century, the French influence having a great importance. The Constitution adopted in 1866 has inaugurated a new constitutional period in the political history of the Romanian people. Its main characteristics lies in the entire connecting of the Romanian structure of government to the West model of political leadership. Constitution from 1923 included some of the modern principles of parliamentary governance. The democratic government based on the 1923 Constitution was followed by two successive authoritarian regimes. The socialists Constitutions of 1948, 1952 and 1965 created a constitutional framework characteristic of the totalitarian regimes. The Constitution adopted in 1991 inaugurates a democratic political regime based on the principles of Rule of Law.

**Keywords:** constitutional regime, constitutional history, parliamentary regime, parliamentary governance, Rule of Law, constitutional framework.

### **1. Historical roots of the modern constitutional regime in Wallachia and Moldavia (1831 - 1866)**

The constitutional organisation of the two Romanian Principalities, established at the beginning of the 14th century, has historical roots even from that period and has been evolving incessantly since then. Obviously, one cannot endorse the idea that the constitutional organisation of the two feudal Romanian States met at the moment of their establishment the features of the modern concept of “constitutional organisation”. First of all, in the 14th century, there was not a political-legal document under the form of a constitution having the meaning of a basic agreement between those who governed and those who were governed, which would have been adopted by a representative body and in which the way governing institutions were to be organised and to function, as well as the political-legal and social status of a person would have been accurately set down. Nevertheless, there was a set of customs, governing rules that settled, at least, the place and role of certain power structures within the management process, as well

---

<sup>1</sup> Prof. PhD, Christian University „Dimitrie Cantemir”, Correspondent Member of the Academy of Romanian Scientists, Romania